

Regular Council Meeting
Monday, December 4, 2023
6:30 p.m. Caucus- 7:00 p.m. Meeting
Live via Facebook@<http://Facebook.com/lackawannany>

Meeting called to order/Pledge of Allegiance.

NB: Meeting is being recorded.

Roll Call: Council: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano
Dept. Heads: Law, Development (Acting), Public Works, Comptroller, Recreation (E),
Public Safety, PIO

Hearings from Citizens:

Approval of Minutes: of the regular meeting of November 20, 2023.

Moved by Marrano seconded by Muflahi to adopt minutes of the regular meeting of November 20, 2023 as written.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Departmental Reports:

1. **City Comptroller** – A/P Check Listing #12, dated 11/17/2023.
2. **City Comptroller** – A/P check Listing #13, dated 11/20/2023 – 11/24/2023.
3. **City Comptroller** – A/P Capital Fund Check Listing #3, dated October, 2023.

Moved by Marrano seconded by Moretti to receive and file Departmental Reports one through three.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Communications from the Council:

Requests that Appropriate Speed Limit Signage be Implemented Throughout the City of Lackawanna to Ensure the Awareness and Safety of the Residents, Motorists and Pedestrians.

4. Honorable City Council Members
714 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, New York 14218

Honorable City Council Members,

I hope this letter finds you all in the best of health. I am requesting that appropriate speed limit signage be implemented throughout city limits. Currently, I have only seen one speed sign which is posted in Bethlehem Park. It is incumbent upon us to enact and secure speed limit signs to ensure the awareness and safety of our residents as well as motorists and pedestrians that use our streets and roads.

On Ridge Road, across from Memorial Field, there is a makeshift sign constructed out of plywood and paint informing motorists of the 30 mile per hour speed limit. This is quite frankly embarrassing and inappropriate.

I look forward to discussing this matter further with you all. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to ask me prior to or at the city council meeting. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

AMIRA MUFLAHI, FIRST WARD COUNCIL MEMBER

Moved by Marrano seconded by Anderson to receive and file, refer to Director of Public Safety, Commissioner of Public Works and Law Department.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Requests that the One-Way Direction on Nason Parkway be Switched from the Current Design to Either Opening it Back Up to be a Two-Way Street or Having the One-Way Entrance Changed to South Park Avenue. This Would Alleviate the Traffic Congestion at the South Park and Ridge Road Intersection.

6. Honorable City Council Members

714 Ridge Road

Lackawanna, New York 14218

Dear Honorable City Council Members,

I hope this letter finds you all in the best of health. I am requesting that the one-way direction on Nason Parkway be switched from its current design to either opening it back up to be a two way street or having the one-way entrance changed to South Park Ave.

Changing the current design to the proposed format would alleviate traffic congestion at the South Park and Ridge Road intersection for vehicles traveling south. Vehicles would be able to enter into Nason Parkway from South Park and travel to Ridge Road avoiding the intersection.

I understand this may require further insight from the Vehicle and Traffic Board, Public Safety, Law Department, as well as Law Enforcement. I look forward to developing and engaging in that dialogue. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to ask me prior to or at the city council meeting. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

AMIRA MUFLAHI, FIRST WARD COUNCIL MEMBER

Moved by Muflahi seconded by Surdyke to receive and file.

Yeas: Muflahi, Surdyke

No: Anderson, Moretti, Marrano

Failed 3-2

Communications from Division/ Department Heads:

Requests the City Council to Direct the City Clerk to Advertise for Bids for New Firefighting Nozzles and Hoses for the Fire Department. The Funding is Provided by an Assistance to Firefighters Grant Sponsored by FEMA.

6. Lackawanna City Council

Honorable Fred Marrano, President

714 Ridge Road

Lackawanna, New York 14218

Re: Request to advertise for bids for fire nozzles and hose

Dear Council Members,

I am requesting your Honorable Body to direct the City Clerk to advertise for bids for new firefighting nozzles and hose for the Fire Department.

This equipment will include 2 ½” playpipe nozzles with various size tips, 1 ¾” combination nozzles and 1 ¾” fire hose. Equipment specifications will be available in the City Clerk’s office.

The funding for this project is provided by an Assistance to Firefighters grant sponsored by FEMA.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

JAMES FINO, FIRE CHIEF

Moved by Muflahi seconded by Moretti to receive and file, direct City Clerk to advertise for bids.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5 - 0

Requests the City Council Approve the Ordinance Outlining the Budget Transfers Necessary to Address the Costs Associated with the Steelawanna Traffic Signal Project. The City has Already Received the \$250,000 Urban Initiative Funding Grant from Erie County. This Project was Approved by Council at the February 7, 2022 Council Meeting.

7. Honorable Council President
Honorable City Council
714 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, New York 14218

Re: Steelawanna Traffic Signal

Dear Honorable Body:

This correspondence is offered in furtherance of Council’s *“Certification of Action Taken at Council Meeting”* dated February 7th, 2022, relative to the above-referenced project.

An Ordinance outlining the budget transfers necessary to address the costs associated with said project is attached for Council’s review, consideration and approval. Please note that the City of Lackawanna has already received the \$250,000.00 Urban Initiatives Funding Grant from the County of Erie.

Thank you for your kind consideration in this respect.

Very truly yours,

LINDA M. HYBICKI, CITY COMPTROLLER

Moved by Muflahi seconded by Anderson to receive and file, act on ordinance.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2023-2024 BUDGET ORDINANCES ADOPTED JUNE 5TH, 2023.

BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Lackawanna, New York, as follows:

SECTION 1. That the 2023-2024 Budget Ordinance adopted June 5th, 2023, is hereby amended to create the following account codes and allocate funds accordingly for the “**Steelawanna Traffic Signal**” Capital Project.

GENERAL FUND

SECTION 2. That the 2023-2024 Budget Ordinance is hereby amended to add **\$455,000.00** to Budget Code **A9000.9550** (“Transfer to Other Fund – Capital”).

SECTION 3. That the 2023-2024 Budget Ordinance is hereby amended to appropriate **\$455,000.00** of the City’s Fund Balance.

CAPITAL FUND

SECTION 4. That the 2023-2024 Budget Ordinance is hereby amended to increase Budget Code **H.0000.2545** (“Capital Fund Inter Fund Transfers”) by **\$455,000.00**.

SECTION 5. That the 2023-2024 Budget Ordinance adopted June 5th, 2023, is hereby amended to increase revenue and record grant funding received from the **Erie County Urban Initiatives Grant**.

SECTION 6. That the 2023-2024 Budget Ordinance is hereby amended to add **\$250,000.00** to Revenue Code **H.3150** (“County Aid – Urban Initiatives Funding”).

SECTION 7. That the 2023-2024 Budget Ordinances is hereby amended to add a total of **\$705,000.00** to the Budget Codes established for the “**Steelawanna Traffic Signal**” project, in the amounts reflected below:

H.2080.0615.0001: “Steelawanna Traffic Signal (City Portion)”	\$30,000.00
H.2080.0615.0002: “Steelawanna Traffic Signal (DASNY)”	\$425,000.00
H.2080.0615.0003: “Steelawanna Traffic Signal (EC-UIG)”	\$250,000.00

THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY.

Dated: December 5, 2023
Lackawanna, New York

Moved by Muflahi seconded by Anderson to adopt ordinance as written.
Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Advises the City Council of the Following Retirements:

8. Honorable Frederic J. Marrano, Council President

Honorable Members of the City Council
714 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, New York 14218

A. Gregg Bellagamba	Firefighter	effective December 24, 2022
B. Christopher Druzvik	Foreman, DPW	effective March 27, 2023
C. James Judd	Lt. Fire Dept.	effective April 29, 2023
D. Marguerite Jackson	Account Clerk Typist	effective July 29, 2023
E. Jeffrey Gawel	Captain Fire Dept.	effective July 29, 2023
F. David Joyce	Police Officer	effective August 19, 2023

Moved by Marrano seconded by Moretti to receive and file 8A through 8F inclusive, with thanks for their many years of service. Wishing each retiree Godspeed.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Business Registrations:

Fulvio Stampone, Cloud 9 Dispensary, LLC, 2540 Hamburg Turnpike, adult use cannabis retail shop.

Moved by Marrano seconded by Moretti to approve Business Registration, conditioned on State approval.

Yeas: Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

No: Muflahi

Carried 4-1

Tabled Items:

City Clerk – Submits to the Council those items that have been TABLED near or in excess of sixty (60) days, but less than ninety (90) days.

9/5/2023, Communication #5 – City Assessor – Sale of 5 properties to the LHDC.

Failed due to its own time limitation.

2. 9/25/2023, Business Registration – City Clerk – Reps of Rage Gym, 126 Cleveland Avenue.

Moved by Marrano, seconded by Surdyke to remove Business Registration, Reps of Rage Gym, 126 Cleveland Avenue from the TABLE.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Moved by Marrano seconded by Anderson to approve Business Registration contingent upon receipt of appropriate Insurance Certificate.

Yeas: Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

No: Muflahi

Carried 4-1

9/25/2023 Business Registration – City Clerk – Buffalo Best Auto Sales, 3254 South Park Avenue.

Moved by Marrano seconded by Surdyke to remove Business Registration, Buffalo Best auto Sales, 3254 South Park Avenue from the TABLE.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Moved by Marrano seconded by Surdyke to approve Business Registration conditioned on compliance with the conditions implemented by zoning and planning boards.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Old Business:

Adjournment:

Moved by Marrano seconded by Moretti to adjourn meeting.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Frederic J. Marrano-Council President

Grace Marrano - City Clerk

[Persons wishing to speak before the City Council shall provide their name, address and limit their comments to three \(3\) minutes on agenda items only. Please direct any comments to the Council President. To place an item on the agenda, persons shall submit their correspondence to the City Clerk's Office in a signed letter or via email \(cityclerk@lackny.com\) with full address and phone number contained therein, and must be received PRIOR to 12:00 noon on the Wednesday preceding the meeting. The City Council has the final approval of all agenda items. If attending the meeting in person, please silence your cell phones and gentlemen remove your hats. Commentary and actions shall always be respectful of the City Council, Department Heads and fellow citizens or you will be escorted from Chambers.](#)

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